

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants are filing a Notice of Appeal and an Appeal Brief herewith to address the rejection on the merits. This Amendment, the Notice of Appeal and Appeal Brief are intended to be a complete response to the Office action of September 24, 2003.

In the Specification

Applicants originally filed appendices A-I in hard copy form. The Examiner states in the Office action that appendices larger than ten pages in length should be submitted on cd-rom. Please replace the hard copy appendices A-I with the cd-rom appendices A-I provided herewith.

Status of the Claims

Claims 106-149 are pending in the application. The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 119, 129, 144, 146 and 148 are directed to allowable subject matter. Claims 106-118, 120-128, 130-143, 145, 147 and 149 were rejected in the Office action. Claims 119, 129, 144, 146 and 148 were objected to in the Office action.

The Notice of Appeal and Appeal Brief filed herewith are intended to address the rejection on the merits.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that no fees are due in connection with this Amendment. If Applicant is in error, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 19-0597.

Respectfully submitted,



Pehr B. Jansson
Registration No. 35,759

Date: December 23, 2003

Enclosures:

1. Return Receipt Postcard
2. Transmittal Form (1 page)
3. Appendices A-I on CD-ROM
4. Notice of Appeal (1 page)
5. Appeal Brief (24 pages) in triplicate
6. Fee Transmittal for FY 2004 (1 page)

Customer No. 26751
Schlumberger Austin Technology Center
Attn: Pehr B. Jansson, Intellectual Property Law Dept.
8311 North FM 620
Austin, TX 78726
Tel: 512-331-3748
Fax: 512-331-3060